

Enck, Judith

From: Enck, Judith
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2016 6:16 PM
To: 'Seggos, B B (DEC)'; Zucker, Howard A (HEALTH)
Subject: RE: Petersburg Articles

Good to hear but I think it's important to engage with some of the local residents who have contacted epa to explain that waiting in line for tickets and then take the tickets to the town hall for one gallon per day per person is not working out well. some people are buying their own water, which is fine, but I am concerned that others are just drinking contaminated water because aside from the recent water shortage, the process is very burdensome.

Residents are also on a waiting list to get private wells tested by DOH and and don't know when that will occur. Further, while I understand that if a consent order is being negotiated with Taconic Plastics, you cannot publicly announce what is being negotiated but it would be good for, at a minimum, the EPA to know what is being done to control the source, address the plume and is there a schedule to install carbon filtration or another treatment technology on the public water supply. We can discuss next week or perhaps one of the DEC lawyers could phone Paul Simon, our assistant regional counsel, with an update on these broader issues.

Thanks.

Judith

From: Seggos, B B (DEC) [mailto:b.seggos@dec.ny.gov]
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2016 6:10 PM
To: Enck, Judith <Enck.Judith@epa.gov>; Zucker, Howard A (HEALTH) <howard.zucker@health.ny.gov>
Subject: RE: Petersburg Articles

Judith,

As directed by the Governor, we are in regular contact with the leadership in Petersburg and other municipalities that are grappling with drinking water contamination.

In Petersburg this winter, we helped provide bottled water to the Town and secured an agreement from Taconic to cover the cost. As to the water shortage from last weekend noted in the articles, we spoke with the Town Supervisor. He took full responsibility for not having enough water on hand. The state offered to supply him with extra water and he declined. He assured us that will have ample supply on hand for the upcoming distributions on Wednesday and Saturday. Tops also continues to make water available to residents.

The state has ample bottled water on hand and stands ready to assist communities when called upon.

Thanks,
Basil

From: Enck, Judith [mailto:Enck.Judith@epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2016 4:41 PM
To: Seggos, B B (DEC) <b.seggos@dec.ny.gov>; Zucker, Howard A (HEALTH) <howard.zucker@health.ny.gov>
Subject: FW: Petersburg Articles

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Commissioners: the articles below illustrate the concerns I raised with you last week. if it is so difficult to obtain bottled water, I suspect many people are just giving up and drinking what may be contaminated water. Please let me know what EPA can do to assist with this situation. Thank you, Judith

Folks in Petersburg have run out of bottled water following PFOA contamination

By Carmen Chau May 15, 2016, 5:54 pm

PETERSBURGH, NY (NEWS10) – Community members in Petersburg are voicing their frustrations after finding out the water bottles have run out at the Town Hall.

Several people have told News10ABC it's been nothing but an inconvenience, especially felling like they're left in the dark with no answers.

News10ABC talked to the Town Supervisor, who didn't want to be on camera, and he admitted that he thought he ordered enough water but he was wrong.

"Water shouldn't be running out," said Emily Marpe who lives in Petersburg.

It was Saturday at 11a.m. when water ran out at the Town Hall. People were then directed to go to Tops in Hoosick Falls, which many said is a drive that's out of their way.

"We shouldn't have to drive. For me, it's 1.8 miles just to drive to the Town Hall back and forth, said Marpe.

In order to pick up water, people must have tickets that can be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office, which is only open at certain hours.

"This town is getting more and more frustrated," said Marpe.

Water was being distributed five hours a week at the Town Hall. People have been allowed to get one gallon per day.

But instead, people in the small town of Petersburg find themselves filing their trunks over 20 miles away.

"They are pretty frustrated because some people have been getting water filters and all that in Hoosick Falls and nobody else has been getting them and it's just very stressful and it's irritating," said Renee Wagner, who lives in Cherry Plain.

"There should just be an overabundance. It should be there," said Marpe.

Emily Marpe said she bought a well for a reason but it's no longer in use since tests showed it had PFOA levels of 2,100 parts per trillion.

The Town Supervisor told News10ABC actions are being taken. The DEC will be visiting on May 23 to do groundwater work and a design for the filter is already in place.